

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 10, 1997 LB 259A, 278, 307A, 343, 466, 782A, 806, 882
LR 7

Will you please stand to be recognized. Welcome to the Legislature. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Amendments to be printed, Madam President; Senator Withem to (LB) 806, Senator Pedersen to (LB) 882, Senator Wesely to (LB) 307A, Senator Abboud to (LB) 278. New A bills. (Read (LB) 259A and (LB) 782A by title for the first time.) Hearing notice from the Health and Human Services Committee. Bills read on Final Reading have been presented to the Governor. (Re: (LB) 466, (LB) 343,) See pages 1463-68 of the Legislative Journal.)

Madam President, Senators Kristensen and Withem would move to amend the proposal. Senator, I have AM1311 in front of me. (See page 1404 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Kristensen to open on the amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I have a series of two amendments this afternoon to LR 7CA. They involve two separate concepts, both of which came out of the Government Committee, both of which are concepts that have been talked about for a period of time; both, of course, I think received approval through the Constitutional Revision Commission, but that's not where they originated from. They come from different directions, but let me explain them briefly to you. The first one is amendment 1311, and this comes about because of the problems of the last couple of petition drives, but really has its genesis, which is a state problem in almost every state that has petition drives, and that's the issue of fraudulent signatures, troublesome verification, paid circulators, and so on. And I think that what's been discussed this afternoon is accurate, but the days where you had truly volunteer people who cared about the issue, the reason they were out there was because they believed in term limits, or they believed in spending limitations, or they believed in a tax issue, and they did not want to mislead people, and they didn't do it. They were volunteers and, by and large, the volunteer organizations do it correctly. But when you interject the issue of money and paid petitioners...do you remember, the last time, and Senator Robinson, I...I'd be interested in some report